GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1018
ANSWERED ON:27.02.2006
HORSESHOE CRAB
Bishnoi Shri Kuldeep;Gandhi Smt. Maneka

Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Horseshoe Crab found in Orissa is endangered;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government proposes to put it on the schedule of the Wildlife Protection Act, 1972;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefore?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMONARAIN MEENA)

(a) & (b)As reported by Government of Orissa, two species of Horseshoe crabs viz. Carcinoscorpius rotundicauda and Tachypleus gigas are found along the Chandipore coast. Horseshoe Crabs are important for different medical uses. However, they are not captured for any commercial purpose except for some incidental catch in the fishing nets.No reports of bulk catch and supply of Horseshoe Crabs to dealers in Bhubaneshwar have been received.

(c) There is no such proposal.

(d) Does not arise.

(e) Inclusion of species in the various schedules of Wildlife (Protection) Act have been done on the basis of their population status, level of threat and protection they need. As per the recommendation of the National Board for Wildlife, two Committees viz Animals Committee and Plants Committee have been constituted in the Ministry to suggest norms and revision of the existing listing in the Schedules of the Wildlife (Protection) Act.